

P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Herrmann et al.
Application No.:
Filed: Herewith
For: **SURGICAL CLIP**



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail (No. EV 046687078 US) addressed to BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 15, 2002.

By: Carol Prentice

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

U. S. PATENTS:

<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Date of Issue</u>
3,805,702	Cogley	Apr. 23, 1974
3,827,438	Kees, Jr.	Aug. 6, 1974

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS:

<u>Country</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
Germany	89 11 948	Dec. 14, 1989
Germany	296 04 518	May 9, 1996
Germany	29 52 618	Jul. 2, 1981
Great Britain	2 161 206	Jan. 8, 1986

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The references listed above are relevant because they were cited by the International Examiner in the Search Report (copy enclosed) of Applicants' counterpart international patent application no. PCT/EP00/06126 (MPEP §2001.06(a)).

DE 89 11 948 was also cited by the German Examiner in Applicants' counterpart German patent application.

OTHER U.S. PATENTS:

<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Patentee</u>	<u>Date of Issue</u>
3,802,437	Kees, Jr.	Apr. 9, 1974
3,598,125	Cogley	Aug. 10, 1971
4,324,248	Perlin	Apr. 13, 1982
4,932,955	Merz et al.	Jun. 12, 1990
5,474,569	Zinreich et al.	Dec. 12, 1995

OTHER FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS:

<u>Country</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
Germany	35 23 031	Jan. 9, 1986
Germany	26 47 018	May 5, 1977

The references listed above are relevant because they were cited by the German Examiner in Applicants' counterpart German patent application 199 35 418.9 (MPEP §2001.06(a)). English

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language abstracts are attached to each of these German references. U.S. patent 4,932,955 is a counterpart of DE 35 23 031.

Copies of the above-listed references are enclosed, together with a completed form PTO-1449.

Consideration of these references by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Barry R. Lipsitz
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 28,637
755 Main Street
Monroe, CT 06468
(203) 459-0200

**Date: January 15, 2002
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: HOE-670**

FORM PTO-1449		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: HOE-670	SERIAL NO.:
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT(S): Herrmann et al.	
		FILING DATE: Herewith	GROUP:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	3,805,702	Apr. 23, 1974	Cogley			
	AB	3,827,438	Aug. 6, 1974	Kees, Jr.			
	AC	3,802,437	Apr. 9, 1974	Kees, Jr.			
	AD	3,598,125	Aug. 10, 1971	Cogley			
	AE	4,324,248	Apr. 13, 1982	Perlin			
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	AG	5,474,569	Dec. 12, 1995	Zinreich et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AH	89 11 948	Dec. 14, 1989	Germany			
	AI	296 04 518	May 9, 1996	Germany			
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	AK	2 161 206	Jan. 8, 1986	Great Britain			
	AL	35 23 031	Jan. 9, 1986	Germany			
	AM	26 47 018	May 5, 1977	Germany			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

EXAMINER**DATE CONSIDERED**

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.